Cheyenne & Arapaho
TRIBAL TRIBUNE

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Idle No More movement gaining national attention

By Robin Noyes, Tribal Tribune Correspondent

Many nations of tribal people gather together to show their support for the *Idle No More* movement that is now sweeping across the nation.

Over 200 people arrived at 2 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 29, 2012 in Bricktown, Oklahoma City, with their children, family and friends in a peaceful gathering to drum, sing, dance in support of the *Idle No More* movement. At the same time there was another rally of support going on at Penn Square Mall, also in Oklahoma City, as well as many other locations across the United States by tribes of many nations and other supporters.

Idle No More is a grassroots movement started by four Canadian women two months ago in Canada. Their goal is to stop their government from passing more laws and legislation that might further end treaty and indigenous rights of native people.

Their mission statement reads, "*Idle No More calls on all people to join in a revolution which honors and fulfills Indigenous Sovereignty which protects the land and water.*"

The *Idle No More* movement gained widespread attention when the Chief of the Attawapiskat First Nation, Theresa Spence, went on a hunger strike one month ago when the Prime Minister of Canada refused to talk to the First Nations tribes about their concerns. Since then the movement has been marked by nationwide attention with flash mobs and rallies popping up in support of this new movement.

At this writing Prime Minister Harper has agreed to meet with Chief Spence.

Photo by Buddy Hatch

Over 200 supporters gather together in Bricktown, Oklahoma City in support of the Idle No More movement that orignated in Canada.

Massacre descendants seek justice 148 years later

Photo by Andy Cross

Tom Ware, third from left, adjusts a feather in the head gear of newly crowned Sand Creek Massacre Descendants Trust Princess, Samantha Wells, 11-years-old, second from left, as Samantha's grandfather, Robert Simpson, left, and outgoing princess, Kelsey Palmer, 16, right, witness the ceremony at the 22nd annual Sand Creek Descendants Gathering in Anadarko, Okla.

ANADARKO, Okla. (AP) They dance for the dead.

The foreman, the minister and the princess in the buckskin dress stomp and twirl and sing on a gymnasium floor protected by a tarp.

About 100 people watch from chairs arranged around a drum circle. All of them are family, in a way, bound to a terrible event 148 years ago on the banks of an ice-encrusted creek in Colorado.

The old lawyer is there, too, the former Oklahoma attorney general who smoked the truth pipe in a tepee as the Cheyenne arrow keeper looked on.

They gather every year, descendants of the Sand Creek Massacre and their unlikely allies, in a long search for justice that started with optimism, languished and now has a breath of new life.

At dawn on Nov. 29, 1864, Colorado soldiers attacked peaceful Indians camped on the banks of Sand Creek in what is now southeastern Colorado, slaughtering an estimated 163, mainly women, children and the elderly and desecrating their bodies.

The backlash was so severe, the U.S. government not only acknowledged wrongdoing, but promised reparations of land and cash to survivors and relatives of victims.

That promise spelled out in an 1865 treaty remains unfulfilled, according to descendants and their attorneys.

Champions of the cause have died or moved on and descendants, who once stood as allies, now view one another with scorn.

But on this early December day, in a town that calls itself the "Indian Capital of the Nation," descendants receive a rare progress report.

The newly expanded legal team for the Sand Creek Massacre Descendants Trust has opened a dialogue with Department of Interior officials about the claim. At the least, the discussions could lay the groundwork for a federal lawsuit, the lawyers say.

After decades of research and recruitment, about 15,000 descendants have been identified, a step that trust leaders believe is necessary.

Homer Flute, a former auto-parts factory foreman who has headed the trust since 1990, sits on the gym's wooden bleachers and considers the unlikely group of people in his company.

"Sand Creek is like a cobweb," Flute says. "It links in all different directions, and you don't know where it's going. You find people you didn't know existed, and they are kin to you somehow. The idea is you belong to these people and they belong to you."

It is one of the darkest marks on Colorado's history.

On a clear night in November 1864, 700 men under the command of Col. John Chivington set off from Ft. Lyon on the Eastern Plains.

Tensions had been running high in the Colorado Territory, where white settlers and Indians were clashing over land.

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Claims Must Be Filed By March 1, 2013
In $3.4 Billion Indian Trust Settlement
See information pg. 9

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A vision of art and heritage

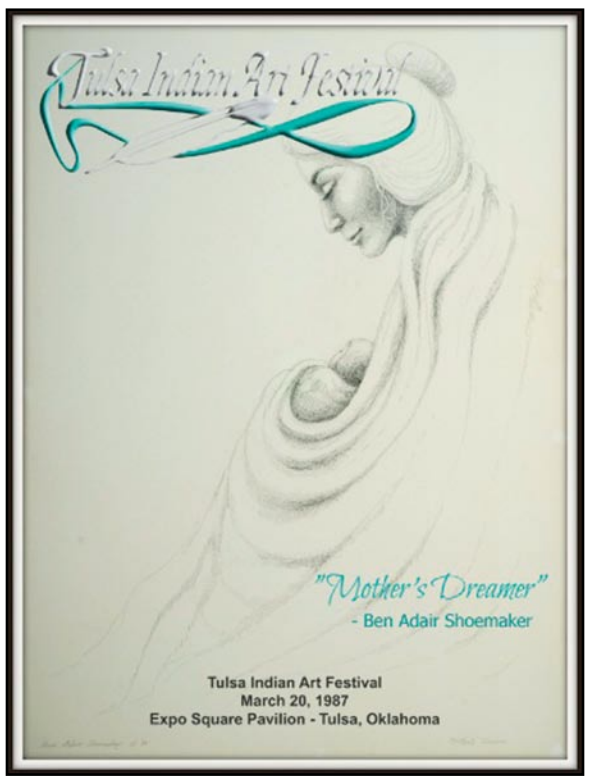
(TULSA, OK)-A Tulsa-area tradition, the 27th annual Tulsa Indian Art Festival will be held Feb. 8-10, 2013 at the Glenpool Conference Center in Glenpool, Okla.

In November 1986, Monetta Trepp had a vision … a vision to assist American Indian artists in showcasing their artwork in the Tulsa area. Trepp decided to meet five of her closert friends for lunch and from the discussion at that meal, the Tulsa Indian Art Festival was born. The group decided to create an event where the artwork of Oklahoma's Indian Country could be showcased and to "create an awareness of the rich and diverse cultures of the American Indian." Since there were no other annual American Indian Art festivals in Oklahoma at that time, there was definitely an available market, but the group was concerned about logistics. How were they going to accomplish this goal with no money, experience or festival documentation? They would have to build on faith.

The first Tulsa Indian Art Festival took place on March 20, 1987 at Expo Square. Ben Shoemaker as the featured artwork donated a painting called *The First Night* and over 40 artists and 100 dancers attended. Numerous local Native Americans attended the festival adorned in their traditional dress and the event's attendance turned out above and beyond what the group expected.

Twenty-seven years later, the Tulsa Indian Art Festival is a premiere juried art show. Native artists from all over the country travel to Tulsa, Okla. annually to share their stories and their art with the community and each other.

Hand drums, rattles and hand-beaded clothing are a few of the treasures that you will find at the festival, as well as traditional Native American cuisine. Professional artists submit their works in competitions ranging from pottery to painting and the winners receive recognition as well as cash awards. Over the last 27 years, over $80,000 in scholarship funds have been awarded to student artists who submit their works in similar art competitions.



Cover for the first Tulsa Indian Art Festival on March 20, 1987.

The featured artist for this year's festival is Kimberly Greene-Bugg of the Oneida Six-Nations. She studied art throughout school, has two years of college level graphic arts training and currently resides in Hornbeak, Tenn., She has been honored as Head Lady Dancer at several powwows and has sold art at festivals, art shows and powwows since 1999. She also performs dance and educational demonstrations for schools and organizations in Memphis, Nashville and the surrounding areas.

Greene-Bugg has received numerous awards throughout her art career. In 1996, she began her studies in beadwork and traditional buckskin dance and in 1997 she was elected Miss Memphis Powwow Princess. Greene-Bugg has received several awards from Eiteljorg Museum and her Ascending backpack won second place in traditional beadwork. Her Northernn Traditional Dancer cornhusk doll won third place for dolls in 2011.

In 2012 she won first place at the Cahokai Mounds Art Show 3D for her Spirit of Life backpack and at the 2012 Tulsa Indian Art Festival, she was selected as the winner of the People's Choice Awards. She has been accepted to the Smithsonian Museum of the American Indian Art Market.

As a featured artists, there will be a booth dedicated to her artwork available for sale in addition to national recognition.

At this year's festival Greene-Bugg will donate her art piece, Haudenosaunee Family, a set of cornhusk dolls displaying a mother with her daughters to the festival's auction, taking place at 7 p.m. Friday, Feb. 8 at the Premiere Night Dinner. The auction helps to underwrite the festival's scholarship fund. This piece symbolizes strength, honor, respect and unity within the Oneida people.

"The women of our nations were called clan mothers who decided important matters such as treaties. The men would in turn carry out the decisions of the clan mothers. Women were the unity in our nation," Green-Bugg said.

For a full itinerary of events and other information visit www.tulsaindianartfestival.com or call (918) 298-2306.

Native American catering company will be bringing authentic native foods to 27th annual Tulsa Indian Art Festival

GLENPOOL, Okla. – Autumn Star Catering has been contracted to cook for the 27th Annual Tulsa Indian Art Festival, Feb. 8-10, 2013 at the Glenpool Conference Center, Hwy 75 and 121st Street in Glenpool, Okla.

Tricia Fields-Alexander has been blessed with the talent of cooking, and the 35-year-old Native woman has turned that talent into a supplemental income for her family in the form of her business, Autumn Star Catering. Fields-Alexander, a native of Tulsa, Okla., lives in Glenpool, Okla., with her four children and husband. Fields-Alexander'sbusiness specializes in Native foods. The Pawnee, Choctaw, Chickasaw, Euchee and Muscogee (Creek) citizen has been cooking for nearly three decades, and credits family members for teaching her how to cook. She said she taught herself how to cook many dishes since she was home by herself as a child many times when her parents worked.

"Some of the menu items that will be available at the art festival will be Autumn Star Indian Tacos made with ground buffalo meat instead of hamburger, Spirit Soup, which I named because when my daughter was little and she ate it she would say, 'it made her spirit happy. It's also made with seasoned buffalo meat, seasoned vegetables and white and yellow hominy," Fields-Alexander said.

She said her menu items are geared for a healthier diet and she pays close attention to her ingredients to ensure the best quality.

"We will have blueberry and cranberry muffins, as well as pumpkin nut bread, and all of these are made with fresh blueberries, cranberries and pumpkin … also cranberry-walnut cookies and a dish I call Cranberry Medley," Fields-Alexander said.

Other menu items that will be available at the art festival are Corn Soup, Frybread, traditional cornbread, baked sweet potatoes, brown rice, salad, Posole, spicy stewed port with white hominy and a turkey dinner, either in a sandwich form or just sliced turkey served with green beans and new potatoes.

Autumn Star Catering consists of an all native team that include Serena Todd, Tricia Fields-Alexander, Nena Howlingcrane, Marie McIntosh, Kali Lake, Amber Howlingcrane and Rosie Lewis. Fields-Alexander cooks for many events, including family reunions, retirement dinners and baby showers. Autumn Star also does fruit trays, vegetable trays and sandwiches. She came up with the name of the business by combining a favorite name with her culture. She chose 'Autumn' because she was almost named that by her parents, instead of Tricia and she chose 'star' because of its ties to her Pawnee heritage.

"Stars are important to the Pawnee tribe for our creation story, and so I felt like God blessed me with the talent to cook and I have a passion, I love to cook, so I just thought that would be a fitting name," Fields-Alexander said. "I would like Indian food to be cooked by Indians."

For more information about Autumn Star Catering, email autumnstarcatering@gmail.com or visit www.facebook/autumnstarcatering.com.

Court to review Native American adoption case

WASHINGTON (AP) The Supreme Court has agreed to review a ruling that sent a South Carolina couple's adopted Native American daughter back to her biological father in Oklahoma.

The high court agreed to hear an appeal by Matt and Melanie Capobianco over the fate of 3-year-old Veronica. The couple's adoption of the girl was overturned by the South Carolina Supreme Court, which said the girl must go back to Oklahoma to be with her biological father, Dusten Brown, a member of the Cherokee Nation.

The state court said the federal Indian Child Welfare Act gives custodial preference to the girl's father. That act was passed in 1978 because of the high number of Indian children then being removed from their homes by public and private agencies. The act gives the child's tribe and family the right to have a say in decisions affecting the child.

The Capobiancos want that decision overturned. Because it is an adoption case, the appeal to the Supreme Court does not mention specific names for privacy reasons, although the South Carolina couple identified themselves in media interviews and released the name of their adopted daughter.

The Capobiancos, who live on James Island just outside Charleston, adopted Veronica after attending the girl's birth and caring for her thereafter. But Brown later went to court seeking custody, which was granted by the South Carolina court. He then took the girl back to Oklahoma in 2011.

Cherokee Nation Attorney General Todd Hembree said he was surprised that the Supreme Court chose to hear the case, especially since the South Carolina court had already ruled.

"This is a matter that is of utmost importance to all of Indian Country," Hembree said in a statement Friday. "Our children are our future, and the Cherokee Nation stands ready to defend the rights of Native American children to be raised in Native American homes."

Courtesy photo

Baby Veronica

The case will be heard by the Supreme Court later this year.

Indian Country response to Cobell payments positive

WASHINGTON, DC-The response of Native Americans to the distribution of individual checks settling the long-running Cobell lawsuit over the government's mishandling of individual Indian trust accounts and trust lands has been overwhelmingly positive and highly gratifying, lawyers handling the settlement said today.

Approximately 263,500 individuals have been sent their Historical Accounting Class payments. This includes 208,500 checks mailed within a few days of the court's approval on Dec. 12 and 54,950 payments wired to the Treasury Department for deposit into Individual Indian Money accounts.

Over two-thirds of checks have been cashed within ten days of their arrival and over 80 percent of class members have received their historical accounting payments.

"That is a level much higher than seen in most class-action settlements," said David Smith, an attorney with Kilpatrick Townsend, the law firm representing the class members.

Jennifer Keough of the Garden City Group Inc. (GCG), the court-appointed claims administrator handling the distribution, confirmed that view.

"In our experience this is an extraordinarily high percentage of awards received and cashed in a very short time," she said.

A call center, handling inquiries from Native Americans about the payments has received 425,000 calls Smith said. That's about 50,000 calls a day, a huge volume considering that about 329,000 individuals were believed in the Historical Accounting class and about 500,000 in the total settlement group, Smith said.

In order to help more individuals to resolve their questions, the call centers hours of operation have been expanded into the evening, Ms. Keough said. The response of class members has been overwhelming positive with many calling the center to update their contact information, she said.

"GCG has added operators to help handle the call volume and they are determined to see that all remaining checks get into the beneficiaries' hands as quickly as possible," she said. "We are heartened and gratified that there is such strong interest in Indian Country in the Cobell settlement. The addresses we are using were supplied to us by the Department of Interior. As we learned during the 16 years that this case was in the courts, not all of Interior's account information was accurate. However, beneficiaries who did not receive checks have contacted us providing accurate contact information, and Indian Country can be assured that we are doing everything we can to expedite the mailing and, when necessary, the forwarding of checks to the correct addresses," Smith said.

An additional 16,500 checks will be delivered in the next few weeks to updated addresses recently received. Any checks sent to a deceased individual should be returned for a new check that will be sent to that individual's estate so it can go directly to the heirs, he said.

The strong call volume and the cashing of the checks show that Indian Country was overwhelmingly supportive of the settlement, Smith said.

The Cobell lawsuit was filed in 1996 by Elouise Cobell, a member of the Blackfeet Nation, over the federal government's handling of individual Indian money accounts. Cobell died last year before the settlement checks could be delivered to the estimated 500,000 account holders.

For additional information, individuals should visit the Cobell website at www.cobellsettlement.com or call toll free at (800) 961-6109. Questions may also be e-mailed to Info@IndianTrust.com. The mailing address is: Indian Trust Settlement, P.O. Box 9577 Dublin, OH 43017-4877.

The American Indian Society's Inaugural Ball and Powwow announces the 2013 Lifetime Legacy award winners

Four Native Americans to be honored during the American Indian Inaugural Ball on Jan. 20, 2013 include, Billy Mills, Elouise Cobell, Billy Frank Jr. and Gay Kingman.

The AIS Lifetime Legacy Award, presented by the American Indian Society of Washington, DC is awarded to a Native American whose life's work has led to the improvement and empowerment of Native Americans through social, political, legal, environmental, or educational initiatives. Presented during the AIS American Indian Inaugural Ball, the Legacy Award is the AIS's most prestigious award. Past honorees include Floyd Crow Westerman, Mitchell Bush and LaDonna Harris.

In 1969, AIS held its first American Indian Inaugural Ball Presidential Inauguration of Richard Nixon. Every inauguration year since then, AIS has hosted the American Indian Inaugural Ball, bringing together nearly 4,000 individuals from Native organizations and tribes

*See **2013 Lifetime Legacy award winners**, page 4*

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FIRST & SECOND PLACE WINNERS OF THE 2012 NATIVE AMERICAN JOURNALIST ASSOCIATION MEDIA AWARDS & 2012 WINNER OF THE OPA BETTER NEWSPAPER CONTEST

Emergency weather contact information

With Oklahoma entering into winter weather season, please print off the list of Emergency Managment Contact Information. In the event of severe weather and loss of utility services, Cheyenne & Arapaho Tribes Community Halls will be designated as emergency shelters.

Emergency Management Contact Information:

Ida Hoffman	405.201.4926	Chief of Staff
Felicia Heartfield	405.626.3725	Security
Adrian Prairiechief	405.201.0842	Crisis
Frank Boswell	405.201.8803	Dept. of Administration
Basil Pollock	405.201.5924	Property & Supply
Chester Whiteman	405.618.6866	Economic Development
Mac Sittingbull	405.200.6916	Economic Development
Marina Gaytan	405.201.9233	Culture & Heritage
Lisa Liebl	405.623.0023	Communications / Media Relations

Concho Community Hall

Marcel Sankey	405.885.0584
Jewel Pedro	405.639.7632
Reggie Island	405.885.9936
Elsie Sage	405.728.0524
Office	405.422.7433

NAC Concho

Anita Hoffman	405.751.4397
Office	405.422.7712

Geary Community Hall

Office	405.884.2242
Virginia Richey	580.819.2880

Hammon Community Hall

Janell Byrd	580.374.7327
Office	580.473.2064

Seiling Community Hall

Sonny Whitebuffalo	580.940.0309
Office	580.922.3212

Watonga Multipurpose Center

Office	580.623.2385
Malcolm Whitebird	580.391.0581

Canton Community Hall

Office	580.226.2378
Roni Robinett	580.309.3745

Clinton Community Hall

Orville Whiteskunk	405.422.8271
Damon Dunbar	405.422.8268

Crisis Program

Sarah Whiteshield	405.201.5215
Charles Abraham	405.201.0262

Elder Care Emergency weather contact numbers

El Reno area

Frank Sheridan	405-200-6676
Jenny Harjo	405-255-2703

Kingfisher area

Eva Olguin	405-201-6481

Oklahoma City area

Toni Loneman	405-361-4361

2013 Lifetime Legacy award winners

continued from page 3

Courtesy photo

The 2012 Inaugural Ball and Powwow.

from across the continent, Alaska and Hawaii. Funds raised in 2013 will be used for youth scholarships and activities, as well as funding and ongoing support of the native community in the DC region and beyond.

This year's honorees are as follows:

Billy Mills, Oglala Lakota Sioux. He is the national spokesperson for Running Strong for American Indian Youth and the only American to ever win the 10,000 Meter Olympic Gold. For nearly 30 years, Mills has worked tirelessly through his Running Strong Organization, building water wells, log homes, dialysis clinics, youth centers, and a Boys and Girls club, bringing basic necessities to the people of the Pine Ridge Indian Reservation in South Dakota. Mills is also a motivational speaker and best-selling author who travels 300 days a year bringing his message of empowerment to native youth across the world.

Elouise Cobell, Blackfoot Confederacy was an elder and activist, banker, rancher, and the plaintiff in the groundbreaking litigation Cobell v. Salazar, which challenged the United States' mismanagement of trust funds belonging to more than 500,000 individual Native Americans. The settlement is the largest ever in a class action against the federal government

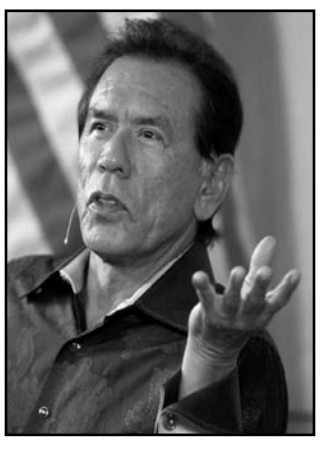
Billy Frank, Jr., Nisqually is the Chairman of the Northwest Indian Fisheries Commission (NWIFC) and is a respected environmental leader and treaty rights activist known for his intense dedication to the treaty fishing rights cause. Also known for promoting cooperative management of natural resources, Frank has received numerous awards, including the Martin Luther King Jr. Distinguished Service Award (1990), for humanitarian achievement and the Albert Schweitzer Prize (1992), for humanitarianism.

Gay Kingman, Cheyenne River Sioux is the Executive Director to the Great Plains Tribal Chairman's Association and a fierce defender of tribal rights and sovereignty. She is honored for her 25-year career as teacher, principal, tribal college president, and her work as former Executive Director of the National Congress of American Indians and Public Relations Director of the National Indian Gaming Association.

According to 2013 American Indian Inaugural Ball Chairman Peter J. Homer Jr., "We selected four individuals who have shown outstanding leadership and dedication to the improvement of the lives of Native Americans. These two men and two women have dedicated their lives to empowering their people, we want them to know that their people recognize their sacrifices and appreciate all they have done."

The American Indian Society of Washington DC (AIS) is a not-for-profit organization dedicated to providing educational and athletic scholarships and war veteran outreach to Native American citizens. Since the very first American Indian Ball the American Indian Society (AIS) has maintained its goals for 47 years to preserve Native culture, perpetuate Indian tradition and to enlighten the public and encourage a better understanding of the ways and culture of today's contemporary Native people. For more information on the inaugural ball and powwow schedule visit www.aisball2013.com.

Native American actor to be inducted into the Hall of Great Western Performers



The National Cowboy & Western Heritage Museum in Oklahoma City will induct Wes Studi, along with the late Robert Mitchum, Leo Carillo and Duncan Renaldo, into the Hall of Great Western Performers during its annual Western Heritage Awards next year.

The gala will be April 20, according to a news release. The black-tie affair honors principal creators in 16 categories of Western music, literature, television and film. Also being honored are the Chester A. Reynolds Memorial Award recipient, Boots O'Neal, and inductees to the Hall of Great Westerners, John Lacey and the late Kenneth Eade.

For induction into the Hall of Great Western Performers, actors must have made significant contributions to the perpetuation of the Western film, radio or theatre. Through a solid body of works in motion pictures, radio or stage, the inductee must project the traditional Western ideals of honesty, integrity and self-sufficiency.

Wes Studi is a native Oklahoman, Vietnam veteran, sculptor, musician, author, activist and full-blooded Cherokee. He is best known for his roles in "Dances with Wolves," "The Last of the Mohicans," "Heat" and James Cameron's "Avatar."

Studi was born in Nofire Hollow, Okla., in 1946 as the eldest son of a ranch hand. He spoke only Cherokee until he was 5 years old, when he was sent to Chilocco Indian School in Northern Oklahoma, where he remained until high school graduation.

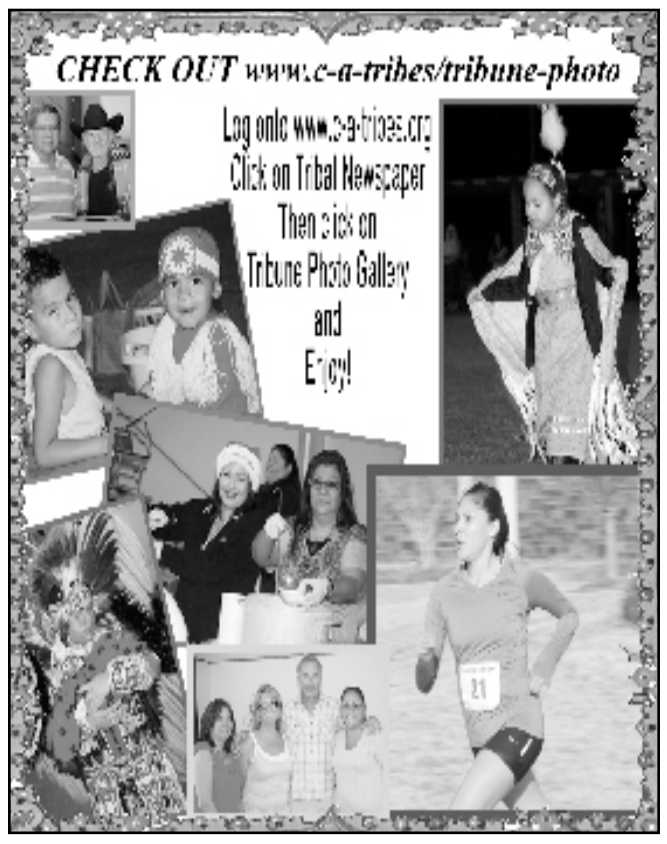
Afterwards, he was drafted into the Army and served 18 months in South Vietnam with the 9th Infantry Division in the Mekong Delta and being nearly killed by friendly fire. After an honorable military discharge, Studi became seriously involved with Native American politics.

Later on, Studi moved to the Cherokee reservation in Oklahoma. He enrolled at Tulsa Junior College on the G.I. Bill, where he helped to start a Cherokee newspaper. During his college years, he began teaching the Cherokee language professionally. Later attending Tahlequah University, Studi made further attempts at positive influence in his work with the Cherokee Nation.

After college, he shifted his attention to running his own horse ranch and became a professional horse trainer. It was during that time that he began acting at The American Indian Theatre Company in Tulsa in 1983. In 1988, he landed his first film role in *Powwow Highway* and made his TV debut in a small role in the ABC-TV movie, *Longarm*. It was after Studi's role in the 1988 PBS production *The Trial of Standing Bear,* that he fully realized his passion for acting.

In 1990, he landed the role of the Pawnee warrior in *Dances with Wolves*. Two years later, Studi was cast in the role he is most-famous for as Magua in *The Last of the Mohicans*. In addition to a long list of film credits, his varied interests include sculpture, tennis and jazz guitar. He is an internationally recognized expert in indigenous languages and has worked as a language consultant on several films. Studi, and his wife Maura Dhu, a singer and writer, live in Santa Fe, N.M., and perform in a local six piece band called Firecat of Discord. They have one son.

For reservations or more information about the 2013 Western Heritage Awards, call (405) 478-2250 or go to www.nationalcowboymuseum.org.



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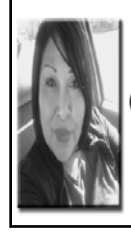

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Massacre descendants seek justice

continued from page 1

That April, Arapahos had slaughtered a ranching family east of Denver, inflaming public opinion.

Yet there had been progress toward peace. The great peace chiefs, White Antelope and Black Kettle of the Cheyenne, and Left Hand of the Arapaho, were camped on Sand Creek under government assurances they would be safe.

Chivington, a fierce abolitionist and former Methodist minister, had a different view. He rallied his men against the "red scoundrels", urging them to remember their own women and children.

The first shots were fired at daybreak, as the village of about 100 lodges, almost entirely Cheyenne with a few Arapaho, began to stir.

The village was largely empty of men, who were away hunting buffalo. The cavalrymen fired from sand bluffs and pounded targets with shells from mountain howitzers.

Soldiers paid no heed to the large American flag and smaller white flag beneath it tied to a lodgepole in the village.

Witnesses described Indians on their knees begging for mercy, children clubbed in the head and a woman's belly sliced open. Indians hid in pits dug in the sandy creekbed.

Once the killing was over, the desecration began. White Antelope's ears and genitals were cut off. One man claimed to have cut out a woman's heart and impaled it on a stick.

Body parts were taken as trophies and put on display in a Denver theater.

Initially, the incident was hailed as a heroic battle. But recriminations came quickly in congressional and military hearings the following year.

Soldiers wearing uniforms that should be "the emblem of justice and humanity" had executed a "foul and dastardly massacre," a congressional committee found. Chivington suffered no consequences; by then, he was out of the military.

Sand Creek was a defining moment in relations between whites and Indians in the West.

"It's never been forgotten," said David Halaas, former chief historian of the Colorado Historical Society and an ally to the Cheyennes in the Sand Creek struggle. "It's an open wound that still hasn't healed."

The 1865 Treaty of the Little Arkansas acknowledged "gross and wanton outrages perpetrated against certain bands" of Cheyenne and Arapaho. Article 6 promised land in locations to be determined and cash for victims.

"We are going to succeed."

Robert Simpson remembers his grandmother coming to him when he was in high school and telling him to write down names of ancestors butchered at Sand Creek. One day, she said, he would need them.

Simpson joined the Army, fought in Vietnam and worked as a sheriff's deputy. Later in life, he attended seminary and became a Methodist minister, just like Chivington, the villain of Sand Creek.

A soft-spoken bear of a man who apologizes when he gets emotional about Sand Creek, Simpson is pastor of J.J. Methvin Memorial United Methodist Church in Anadarko and a descendants trust leader.

"All this was by divine intervention," Simpson said. "We were picked to do this for a reason, and we are going to succeed. It's been a long journey for all of us, but we are still going forward."

Other reparations efforts over the years have gone nowhere. Bills introduced in Congress in 1949, 1953, 1957 and 1965 failed.

In the 1960s, the federal Indian Claims Commission ruled that the Sand Creek claims were "individual in nature and must be brought by descendants."

Tribal members thought identifying the descendants would fall to them. Activity stalled for several years.

Then, an anthropologist named John Moore got involved. Moore sought to solve a mystery central to any claim identifying the tribal bands at Sand Creek and tracking their movements afterward.

He also began working with Laird Cometsevah, a Cheyenne chief, and his wife, Colleen, who were identifying descendants through records and oral histories. Moore and his graduate students dug through decades-old census records and other documents.

The going was tough. Cheyenne change their names and use nicknames. There were problems with translations.

By 1990, enough progress had been made to form a new pan-tribal descendants group. Laird Cometsevah recruited Flute, an Apache tribal member known for his organizational skills, to head it.

The group also hired a lawyer, Larry Derryberry, who served as Oklahoma attorney general in the 1970s.

In 1991, in a ceremony near the massacre site, Derryberry entered a tipi with trust leaders and the Cheyenne Sacred Arrow Keeper, the tribe's highest religious office.

The lawyer smoked a pipe filled with tobacco and herbs. To the Cheyenne, "smoking on it" is a sacred vow.

Before the dying embers of a fire, smoke drifted up through the top of the tipi, sealing the deal. There would be a paper contract, too, laying out Derryberry's contingency fee.

Derryberry said the goal of the descendants search always was to cast as wide a net as possible. If someone had one drop of blood traceable to Sand Creek, that was enough.

Photo by Andy Cross

Shirley Wells discovered her ancestral ties to Sand Creek while researching her family tree in the 1990s.

She has taught the story to her 11-year-old daughter, Samantha, who is starting a four-year term as the descendants trust's princess, traveling to powwows and other events as an ambassador.

"It is sad, but it makes me feel good my ancestors would be willing to sacrifice their lives for us," she said. "I know they are in heaven and always watching down on us."

There was a new face at the latest descendants dance in Anadarko, a town that is equal parts white, black and Indian, and has a championship-caliber high school football team, the Gold River Casino on Highway 281 and a boarded-up bar with a "no weapons allowed" sign.

David Askman, a former federal litigator now in private practice in Denver, introduces himself. He explains how he first heard about Sand Creek growing up in Wyoming.

He mentions the two Indian boys he and his wife adopted from Oklahoma and he talks about the chance car ride to the Tulsa airport a few months ago in which a colleague happened to mention the Sand Creek Massacre reparations cause, which had stalled yet again.

Askman was drawn in, like so many others before him.

"They are viewed often as Indians with dollar signs in their eyes," Askman said. "They are anything but that. They feel the pain of what happened and want recognition from the government."

Askman said recent court rulings provide optimism after years of dashed hopes.

The landmark Cobell settlement of 2009 opened the door to other decades-old Indian claims. The lawsuit, brought by a Blackfeet woman over a century of mismanaged land-trust royalties, led to one of the largest settlements in U.S. history, $3.4 billion.

Trust leaders also see hope in the Interior Department, the federal agency that oversees government relations with Indian Country.

The department's top lawyer, Hilary Tompkins, is of Navajo descent; Interior Secretary Ken Salazar is a Coloradan who knows Sand Creek.

An Interior spokesman declined to make officials available for interviews but said the department has opened an investigation in response to trust lawyers and will notify them when it is complete.

Stephen Pevar, senior staff counsel for the American Civil Liberties Union and author of "Rights of Indians and Tribes," said courts largely have given Indians the benefit of the doubt on treaty claims.

One case bears remarkable similarity to Sand Creek. In 1980, the Supreme Court ordered the government to compensate the Sioux for seizing the Black Hills of South Dakota, which had been promised to the tribe in an 1868 treaty.

But the Sioux refused to take the money, insisting on the land instead. More than

*See **Massacre descendants seek justice**, page 9*

Native Business: Resilience

By Jim Stanley, Tribal Tribune Correspondent

Economic development is part of every tribe's vocabulary. Most tribes have established an economic development position to attract or start businesses on reservation. The reason is simple: businesses from separate sectors and in multiples are better for a tribe's community because more enterprises result in financial resilience; resilient economies are better able to absorb stress and survive in difficult times and create wealth over time.

The benefits to resilient economies are that they do not fall as fast or far in a downturn - generally recover faster. Take for example a community with a hotel and gaming operation then nothing else. The economic health of the community will generally follow the ups and downs of the gaming property. Comparatively, a community with the same gaming property, plus c-stores, fisheries, and timber is more diversified. Declines in gaming are not directly related to grab-and-go sales at a convenience store, consumption of salmon, or the use of lumber in paper, light poles or building supplies. Each sector (gaming and hospitality, gas and grocery, food, and wood products) will follow its own cycle. When one sector is down others may be rising or stable.

From a family's perspective economic diversification works better; take a dual-income household where one family member is employed by a casino and another by a convenience store. In an economic downturn the probability of dual job loss and financial hardship is less if each spouse works at a separate business than if they work at the same place. Additionally, if one looses a job and a local business is hiring, the likelihood of being re-employed is greater.

Some tribes are natural resource rich located in rural communities others are urban or in-between, suburban. For a rural tribe it might make sense to allocate resources toward businesses that integrate a vertical supply chain around a natural resource. Timber for example has a lot of uses between the harvest of trees and the end user. Every business transporting, trading, refining, or selling wood products has a place along the vertical supply chain. An urban tribe may have access to a large population base of consumers. Owning retail businesses where the tribe has a competitive advantage, like tax exemption, may make sense.

It is smart to build upon strengths. A tribe should start by examining the businesses they are in today and recognize their competitive advantages. It should be asked: Does an opportunity exist to expand upon what we already have? or what are our clusters of expertise?

There are three things a tribe can do to increase the probability of success in adding businesses to their portfolio:

1) Invest in Human Capital. Apply resources toward existing and new businesses, make education and the achievement of goals a priority, spend time and energy focusing on what is possible rather than toiling over that which does not work.

2) Develop Infrastructure. This can be physical like roads and water treatment plants but also organizational –like trade and educational associations. It is the services and/or facilities that embody incremental improvement to promote the achievement of goals. A Chamber of Commerce group that holds regular meetings uncovers a lot of opportunity.

3) Leadership. Make a plan, have the community understand it, and follow through. Leadership is also the ability to adapt to changes while maintaining the integrity of the group. Businesses start out with the best of intentions and regardless of planning, unforeseen things happen -requiring change. Experienced leadership understands how to move forward in a changing environment. They move the group forward with confidence or hold a position while under pressure from others to change.

Jim Stanley is a tribal member of the Quinault Nation, board member of the Quinault Nation Enterprise Board and the Northwest Native American Chamber. He is a professional lender and freely shares his knowledge and resources with you, his cousin, for your economic benefit. Jim can be reached at: sovereigndevelopment@hotmail.com.

BRIEFS

The third annual Native American Human Resources Conference

Jan. 24-25, 2013 at the Pala Casino and Resort in Pala, Calif. For more information visit www. nativenationevents.org/conference/third-annual-native-american-human-resources-conference.

The 15th annual Native Diabetes Prevention Conference

Jan. 27-30, 2013 at the Grace Inn in Phoenix, Ariz. For more information or to register visit www.aii.ou.edu/nativediabetes2013.

The second annual National Native American 8(a) Conference

Jan. 28-29, 2013 at the Morongo Casino and Resort in Cabazon, Calif. For more information or to register visit www. www.indiangaming.com.

U.S. Department of Energy Tribal Energy Programs-EUCI 2013 Tribal Lands Conference

Jan. 28-29, 2013 in Scottsdale, Ariz. For more information visit www.apps1.eere.energy.gov/tribalenergy/events.

Advanced Human Resource Certification for Indian Country

Jan. 28-Feb. 1, 2013 at the Indigo Sky Casino in Wyandotte, Okla. For more information or to register visit www.falmouthinstitute.com.

The 18th annual Indian Nations and Tribes Legislative Day

Feb. 5, 2013 at the Arizona State Capitol in Phoenix, Ariz. For more information visit www.ncai.org.

Fund Reporting for Tribal Organizations

Feb. 19-20, 2013 at the Tropicana Hampton Inn in Las Vegas, Nev. For more information visit www.falmouthinstitute.com.

Tribal Casino and Hotel Development Conference

Feb. 21-22, 2013 at the Casino Del Sol in Tuscon, Ariz. For more information or to register visit www.nativenationevents.org.

The 2013 NIEA Legislative Summit-Standing for High Quality Native American Education

Feb. 25-27, 2013 at the Holiday Inn Capitol in Washington, D.C. Register by Feb. 15. For more information or to register visit www.niea.site-ym.com/legsummit2013.

Indian Country's Enrollment Summit

March 6-8, 2013 in Phoenix, Ariz. For more information or to register visit www.falmouthinstitute.com.

Tribal Education Management Summit

March 6-8, 2013 in Phoenix, Ariz. For more information or to register visit www.falmouthinstitute.com.

Indian Gaming Phoenix 2013 Tradeshow and Convention

March 24-27, 2013 at the Phoenix Convention Center in Phoenix, Ariz. For more information or to register visit www. indiangaming.

Community Health Education Classes

The Health Education Department will be conducting a series of Health Education Classes in the communities of Hammon, Canton and Seiling. The topics to be addressed in January will be on Colon Cancer and Hypothyroid/Hyperthyroid conditions. The classes will be held at the Community Centers on the following dates:

January 28 1 p.m. - 3 p.m.	**Hammon Community Center**
January 30 1 p.m. - 3 p.m.	**Canton Gym**
January 31 1 p.m. - 3 p.m.	**Seiling Community Center**

Other topics for discussion will be on how to prevent disease and illness by being active, healthy eating and by eliminating the risks associated with disease. Refreshments and door prizes will be available.

Cheyenne and Arapaho Education Department to host community meetings

The Cheyenne and Arapaho Tribes Department of Education would like to invite you to an Education Outreach meeting for your community. Below you will find a list of communities, dates, and locations for each meeting. The meetings will begin at 6 p.m. with a meal and door prizes provided. Also, one lucky parent will win a big screen television at the conclusion of all the community meetings. Parents will receive a ticket at each meeting and the drawing will be in March 2013.

The purpose of the meetings is to hear from tribal members regarding any educational concerns you may have and to provide you with information on services provided by the Tribes Department of Education. We look forward to seeing you and your family. Please contact the Department of Education at (405) 422-7611 with any questions.

COMMUNITY	DATE	LOCATION	TIME
Kingfisher	Jan. 16	Kingfisher High School Cafeteria	6 pm
Hammon/Elk City	Jan. 23	Hammon High School Cafeteria	6 pm
Oklahoma City	Jan. 28	OKC Public School Admin. Bldg. 900 N. Klein-Oklahoma City Bottom floor Cafeteria	6 pm
El Reno	Jan. 30	Darlington School	6 pm
Clinton	Feb. 6	Clinton High School Cafeteria	6 pm
Calumet	Feb. 11	Calumet High School Cafeteria	6 pm
Geary	Feb. 13	Geary High School Cafeteria	6 pm
Canton	Feb. 20	Canton High School Cafeteria	6 pm
Seiling	Feb. 25	Seiling Community Center	6 pm
Watonga	Feb. 27	Watonga Middle School Cafeteria	6 pm
Weatherford/Thomas	March 6	Weatherford Middle School Cafeteria	6 pm

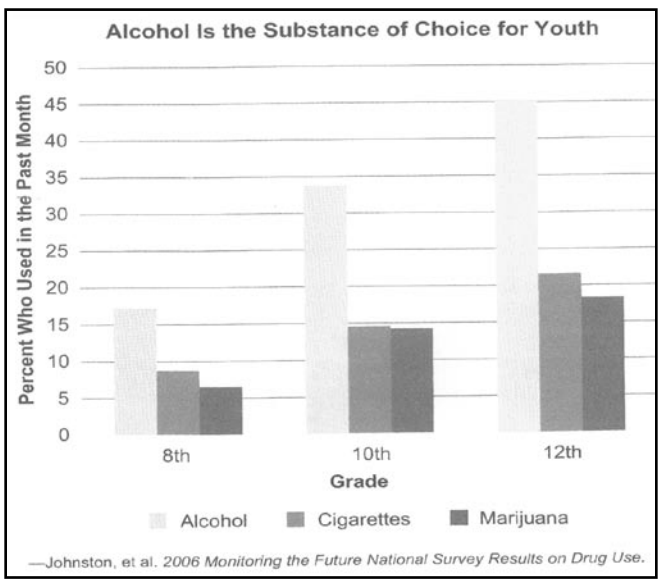
Underage drinking, a call for action

Submitted by John Blackowl
Indian Alcohol and Substance Abuse

The Cheyenne and Arapaho Indian Alcohol and Substance Abuse program wishes to address an issue impacting today's youth, underage drinking.

According to a report entitled, *Guide to Action*, derived from the U.S. Surgeon General nearly 10.8 million youth ages 12-20 are underage drinkers.

The President of the United States appoints the Surgeon General to help protect and promote the health of the Nation. The Surgeon General lets people across the country know the latest news on how to get healthy and stay healthy. The Surgeon General explains how to avoid illness and injury. When a health topic needs special attention, the Surgeon General issues a national call to action to everyone in America. The Surgeon General's call to action to prevent and reduce underage drinking explains why underage alcohol use is a major public health and safety issue.



The *Guide to Action* reads, "Drinking alcohol can harm the growing body and brain. That's why it's important for young people to grow up alcohol-free and it takes every adult in the community to help young people choose not to drink alcohol … it takes you.

When anyone under age 21 drinks alcohol we call it underage drinking and underage drinking is against the law, except in special cases, such as when it is part of a religious ceremony. Underage drinking is also dangerous. It can harm the mind and body of a growing teen in ways many people don't realize.

Yet, children and teens still drink, even though it can harm them. Underage drinking is a serious problem, with roots deep in our culture. It is time to change that picture. It's time to take action. It's time to stop looking the other way. It's time to tell children and teens that underage drinking is not okay. It will take a lot of work over time to change how people think about underage drinking. It's a long-term project for parents, schools, local groups, community leaders and other concerned adults and it's a project that should start when children are young and continue through the teen years."

Some of the facts are in any month, more youth are drinking than are smoking cigarettes or using marijuana, as they grow older, the chance that young people will use alcohol grows. Approximately 10 percent of 12 year olds say they have used alcohol at least once. By age 13 that number doubles and by age 15, approximately 50 percent have had at least one drink. Alcohol dependence is a term doctors use when people have trouble controlling their drinking and when their consumption of, or preoccupation with, alcohol occurs to the extent that it interferes with normal personal family, social or work life. Alcohol dependence rates are highest among young people between the ages of 18 and 20 and they are not even old enough to drink legally.

The greatest influence on young people's decisions to begin drinking is the world they live in, which includes their families, friends, schools, the larger community and society as a whole. Adults often make alcohol use by young people possible. After all, teens can't legally get alcohol on their own.

For more information on how to prevent underage drinking and substance abuse, contact John Blackowl at (405) 422-7659.

Chief Spence continues hunger strike in spite of Prime Minister's announcement

Levi Rickert, Editor-in-Chief, Native Challenges

VICTORIA ISLAND, ONTARIO – Despite the announcement made by Prime Minister Stephen Harper to meet with the First Nation leaders in Ottawa, Canada, Attawapiskat Chief Theresa Spence will continue her hunger strike that began Dec. 26, 2012.

Chief Spence's Attawapiskat First Nation issued a news release after the statement was released by the Prime Minister's office.

"I will continue my hunger strike and await the outcomes of the meeting. Our Peoples have had a history of prior promises and commitments from the Canadian government with no true tangible results. We look forward to re-establishing and strengthening our Treaty relationship with Canada and the ongoing discussions that will lead to the recognition, implementation and advancement our inherent and treaty rights," Chief Spence said.

Part of the Prime Minister's statement cited the progress, he feels, has been made with First Nation peoples, but added "there is more that must be done to improve outcomes for First Nations communities across Canada."

Chief Theresa Spence

Chief Spence agreed with his statement and hopes there is some common ground to work toward as the next meeting takes place.

"Our Indigenous Peoples have always based our relationship on the Peace and Friendship Treaties that were entered into with the Crown. We will bring forth the spirit and intent of Treaty which is rooted in mutual respect and willingness to share. First Nation Peoples look forward to meaningful change. I ask that our peoples and supporters remain peaceful and united for our common cause," Chief Spence stated.

Powwows & Events CALENDAR

Cheyenne and Arapaho Diabetes Wellness Program's 100 Mile Club

Beginning Jan. 7, 2013 and ending Feb. 28, 2013. Sign up at the Diabetes Wellness Center Monday through Friday, 8 a.m. - 5 p.m. Incentives to be given at 25, 50, 75 and 100 miles. For more information call (405) 422-7723.

The 2013 Mirando City Alliance Celebration

Jan. 19, 2013 at the Tri-County Community Center in Geary, Okla. Gourd dance at 1 p.m. Feast at 5 p.m. All tribal organizations and tribal princesses invited to attend. Sponsored by the Sweezy family. For more information call (580) 614-1743.

Ardmore Benefit Powwow

Jan. 19, 2013 at Heritage hall, 220 West Broadway in Ardmore, Okla. Gourd dancing at 1 p.m. For more information call (580) 226-4155 or email ardmorebenefitpowwow@yahoo.com.

Birthday Dance for Levi Pedro (7), Tracy Hornsby Jr. (7), and Hubert Youngbird Haag (7)

Jan. 20, 2013 at the Watonga Multi-Purpose Center in Watonga, Okla. Dinner at 3 p.m. All gourd dance to follow. Prettiest Shawl contest, 12 years and under. Tiny Tots contest 8 years old and under. For more information contact Winona Youngbird at (580) 623-0178.

Idle No More Round Dance Rally

2 p.m., Jan. 20, 2013 at Utica Square in Tulsa, Okla.

Heart of Oklahoma Youth Rodeo

Jan. 26-27, 2013 at the Heart of Oklahoma Expo, Hwy. 177 and Independence in Shawnee, Okla. For more information call (405) 834-4528.

Glenpool NASA Stomp Dance

7 p.m. - 11 p.m. Jan. 26, 2013 at the Glenpool Creek Indian Community Center, Hwy. 75 and 141st Street in Glenpool, Okla. Booths are free with an item donation. For more information call Kristi Collington at (918) 322-9500 ext. 568 or 569.

Free Practice ACT

9:30 a.m. Saturday, Jan. 26, 2013 at the Sylvan Learning Center, 1710 Belle Isle Blvd., Suite G in Oklahoma City. Call to register prior to testing date at (405) 842-7323.

Cheyenne and Arapaho Health Education Classes

1:30 p.m. - 3 p.m. Jan. 28, 2013 at the Hammon Community Center, Jan. 30, 2013 at the Canton Community Center and Jan. 31, 2013 at the Seiling Community Center. Refreshments and door prizes.

Memorial Dance for Burl Kenneth Buffalomeat and J'Shon Leann Youngbear

Feb. 2, 2013 at the Cheyenne and Arapaho Canton Gym in Canton, Okla. Family paint and gourd dance at 2p.m., supper at 5 p.m. Everyone is invited. For more information contact Brian Sevenstar at (405) 201-5574, Chauncy Sutton at (580) 302-0517 or Dana Buffalomeat at (580) 922-3189.

The 27th annual Tulsa Indian Art Festival

Feb. 8-10, 2013 at the Glenpool Conference Center in Glenpool, Okla. Daily admission $8, three day pass $10. Premiere Night Scholarship Benefit Dinner, Friday, Feb. 8 at 7 p.m. Silent and live auctions. For more information call (918) 298-2300 or visit www.tulsaindianartfestival.com.

Seminole Nation Honor Guard Contest Powwow

Feb. 9, 2013 at St. Gregory's University in Shawnee, Okla. Co-host, Comanche Little Ponies. Gourd dancing at 1 p.m. Grand Entry at 7 p.m. For more information contact Rex Haily at (405) 382-3900 or Alex Fish at (405) 432-7858.

Western Heights Indian Education Powwow

March 2, 2013 from 1 p.m. - 10 p.m., 8401 S.W. 44th Street in Oklahoma City, Okla. For more information contact Angela Williams at (405) 350-3420.

EATING well for DIABETES

By Tara Conway, MS, RD/LD, CDE
C&A Diabetes Wellness Program

So how is that weight loss resolution working for you? Already discouraged and given up? It's time to focus on changes for a lifetime to move toward a healthier weight!

Start with a lifelong plan, the big picture achieving overall good health, not just short-term weight loss.

Set realistic goals, like I want to lose ten pounds in 2 months, unrealistic would be I want to lose 10 pounds in a week.

Eat at least three meals a day and plan your meals ahead of time.

Balance your plate with a variety of foods; the more color the healthier the plate.

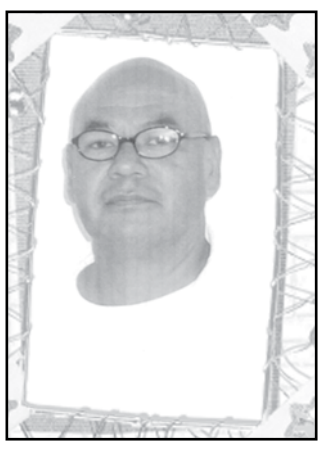
Start your meal with low calorie foods like fruits, vegetables and salads.

Focus on your food. Pick one place to sit down and eat at home. Eating while doing other things can lead to you eating more food than you realize. Chew your food, eat slow, it takes twenty minutes fro your stomach to tell your brain that you are full.

For more help with your weight loss or health goals contact the Diabetes Wellness Program at (800) 247-4612 ext. 7685.

Happy Birthday

Happy 7th Birthday
to Baby Tracy!
You have brought our lives so much joy!
Love and bless you on your big day!
Love mom, Sierra, Seth and Levi



Happy Birthday and Welcome Home!
Chris Wahnee
Dec. 19
Your family in Texas

Daniel Beau Thompson
Jan.2
Happy 9th Birthday Bubs!
We love you so much and we're very proud of you!

Happy Birthday
Frances White Thunder Beard
Jan. 11
We love you aunt Frances
From your nieces and nephew, grand kids, Diane, Phyl and Tom

Gregory Niehhi W. Pedro
Jan. 24
We would like to wish our little king a Happy 1st Birthday!
Our world has been so much better since you came to us son. Love you more than you ever would know. Hope your day is special just as you are son. Big love always mama, daddy GP, big sis Carlina and your little sister Cayli. All your grandmas, uncles, aunties and cousins.

Ayyyyyyye it's your birthday old man!!! Have a good one.
Sincerely, you're amazing family and beloved co-workers

Happy 21st Birthday
Shelby Lynn White Thunder
Feb. 3
Love your aunts Diane, Elsie and Phyl, your sister Jennifer and brother Jason
We love you very much!

Happy 10th Birthday
Kendrick Humphreys
Jan. 12
Love you Teecee, mom

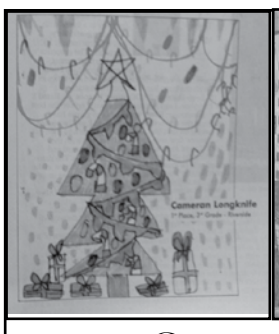
Happy Birthday Wade
Jan. 26
What a gift you have been in our lives … you are loved by so many. Your dedication, loyalty and devotion to your family is just a part of your many attributes. May God bless you in all you do and may happiness and peace be in your heart always.
We love you, like you love Jalen and Jrue,
Mom and dad

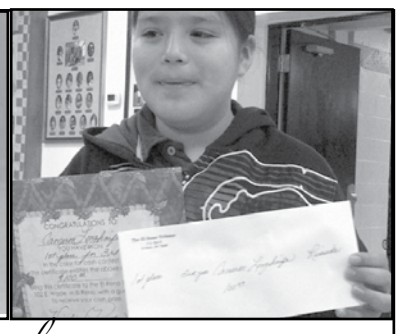
Happy 21st Birthday
Connor Bushyhead
Love you, Jeremy

Rachel Renee Mars
We asked God for a flower and He gave us a bouquet.
We asked God for a minute and He gave us a day.
We prayed to God for true love and He gave us that too.
We prayed to God for an angel and He gave us you.
May God bless you, today, tomorrow and always in peace, in health, in happiness and in love.
Happy Belated 7th Birthday to our princess
We love you very much
Love,
Mom, dad and Ellie

Happy 14th Birthday
Rayna L. Patton
Jan. 26
Love your grandmas Diane, Elsie and Phyl, your aunt Jennifer and uncle Jason

Happy Birthday
Terrill Eugene White Thunder
Feb. 1
Love your aunts, Phyl, Elouise, Diane and Elsie, your sister Jennifer and your brother Jason. We love and miss you very much!!





Congratulations to our artist,
Cameron Chaske Longknife
El Reno Tribune's Color For Cash Winner
1st place winner overall for 3rd grade - $100
Riverside Elementary School
We are so proud of you Cameron!!
Love your family

Thank you!

I would like to say Thank You too everyone who helped with the Thomas JOM Christmas party that was held on Monday, Dec. 17, 2012 at the Thomas Cowboy Church. Francine Williams, NaKayla Lumpmouth, Kassidi Rice for helping me set up tables and chairs for the party at the church. Jack Edwards and Erin Steele for helping clean up the church, Robyn French, Latisha Gibson, Cheevers Heal of Birds and Lucky Star Casino for donating the gifts needed for the Angel Tree that was set up at Concho for our JOM kids.

Thank you guys, our next project will be Easter. We appreciate all your help and support the kids enjoyed their gifts.

Happy New Year and I hope everyone received their stuff, if not please contact Francine Williams at (800) 247-4612.

Officers for 2012-2013, Teresa Rice, chairman, Latasha Gibson, Vice President, Robyn French, Secretary, Nettie BigMedicine, Sergeant of Arms. Thank you, Teresa-Teecee-Rice (580) 302-4536 or teeceerice@ymail.com

In Memory of Shannon Blackwolf
Dec. 26, 1982 – Jan. 23, 2007
And he carried me away- in the Spirit-to a Mountain great and high and showed me the Holy City- Jerusalem, coming down out of Heaven from God! The Promises of his holy word…Rest in Peace my Son, Love you, Mom. I know your spirit is watching over me and your children and the rest of your family and friends

Happy Belated 25th Birthday
To our baby Les

In our hearts you will always be baby Les even though you have grown into a handsome young man with a good heart and a good sense of humor
We will always love you and be here for you. You are always in our thoughts and prayers
You are loved and missed very much.
May the good Lord bless you with many more birthdays to come.
God Bless
Much love from mom
Amy Quita and Sunny and the rest of your extended family
BIG LUB!

Happy Birthday
to our lovely mother Lydia Hamilton!
Jan. 10 Love always Leah, Gracie, Will, Justin, Rowdy, Buster
and all your grand babies

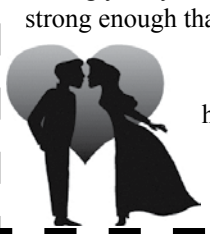
Isaiah Julius Jimpson
Born Jan. 9, 2013
7lbs 5oz and
22.5 inches long
Isaiah was born 3:52 p.m. Jan. 9, 2013 at Southwest Medical Center in Lawton, Okla.
Proud parents are Payton Hatchett and Dave Jimpson. First time grandmothers are filled with complete joy. Maternal grandmother is Becky Lyman of Mustang, Okla. and paternal grandmother is O'Soon Jimpson of Lawton, Okla.

Happy Birthday Lindsey
Jan. 19
You are a bright shining light in every one of our lives. Your smile and laughter are contagious and the room fills with that shining light every time you walk in. I know your dad in heaven watches over you and smiles with love and the beautiful woman you have become.
All my love
Aunt Rosemary

Happy Birthday
Pamela White Thunder Sage
Jan. 26
Love your aunts Diane, Elsie and Phyl, your cousins, Jennifer, Jason and the Hawk household

Happy Birthday
Creg Hart
From the Collins family
Jan. 5

Happy 3rd Anniversary
Jan. 20
Dillon & Charity
Pull up a chair and sit a while, thinking of the past,the fun you've shared over the past 3 years has passed by so fast. You've laughed and cried tears of sorrow and joy during your years together.There's been no storm ever strong enough that together you both couldn't weather.
So we raise our glasses to you both, full of anniversary cheer and wish you happiness and many more years to come!
Love your family in Oklahoma



CHEYENNE & ARAPAHO TRIBES OF OKLAHOMA FILED JAN 02 2013 IN THE TRIAL COURT DOCKET PAGE ITEM IMAGE COURT CLERK DEPUTY

IN THE TRIAL COURT
CHEYENNE AND ARAPAHO TRIBES
P.O. BOX 102
CONCHO, OKLAHOMA 73022

VALERIE HAWK SMITH, Petitioner
vs.
ROGER SMITH JR., Respondent
Case No: JFD-2012-0028

NOTICE BY PUBLICATION

The Cheyenne and Arapaho Tribes to: **ROGER SMITH JR.**

You are hereby notified that Valerie Hawk Smith has filed in this Court a Petition For Dissolution of Marriage and that said Petition is hereby set for a Hearing to be heard in the Courtroom of said Trial Court of the Cheyenne and Arapaho Tribes, 700 Black Kettle Boulevard, Concho, Oklahoma, on the **23RD** day of **JANUARY**, 2013 at **10:00 A.M.**, at which time you may appear and show cause, if any you have, why said Divorce should not be granted.

Dated this 2nd day of January, 2013.

Plaintiff;
Valerie Hawk Smith
P.O. Box 313
Peever, SD 57257

Ricque Richardson, Deputy Court Clerk
Cheyenne and Arapaho Trial Court

CHEYENNE & ARAPAHO TRIBES OF OKLAHOMA FILED JAN 03 2013 IN THE TRIAL COURT DOCKET PAGE ITEM IMAGE COURT CLERK DEPUTY

IN THE TRIAL COURT
CHEYENNE AND ARAPAHO TRIBES
P.O. BOX 102
CONCHO, OKLAHOMA 73022

FLOYD A BEAVER, Petitioner
vs.
CRYSTAL BEAVER, Respondent
Case No: JFD-2013-0001

NOTICE BY PUBLICATION

The Cheyenne and Arapaho Tribes to: **CRYSTAL BEAVER**

You are hereby notified that Floyd A. Beaver has filed in this Court a Petition For Dissolution of Marriage and that said Petition is hereby set for a Hearing to be heard in the Courtroom of said Trial Court of the Cheyenne and Arapaho Tribes, 700 Black Kettle Boulevard, Concho, Oklahoma, on the **13th** day of **FEBRUARY**, 2013 at **10:00 A.M.**, at which time you may appear and show cause, if any you have, why said Divorce should not be granted.

Dated this 3rd day of January, 2013.

Plaintiff;
Floyd A. Beaver
520 N. 15th
P.O. Box 991
Clinton, Ok 73601

Edwina Whiteman, Court Clerk
Cheyenne and Arapaho Trial Court

JOBS find your Career

Submit tribal application, resume, diploma, transcripts, valid Oklahoma state driver's license and CDIB to: Personnel Department P.O. Box 38 Concho, OK 73022 or e-mail: whaag @c-a-tribes.org.

Recruitment Administrator
Closing Date: Until filled

Qualifications:

High school diploma or GED certification required. Four years of general clerical and/or administrative experience. Two years of supervisory experience. Able to type a minimum of 40 words per minute with 80 percent accuracy. Completion of employee background investigating and adjudication training. Must successfully pass background investigation. College degree preferred. Valid Oklahoma state driver's license required. Ability to attend in and out of state training. Good disposition, professionalism and confidentiality a must. Cheyenne and Arapaho preference.

SALARY: Negotiable

Language Program Outreach Education
Closing Date: Jan. 18, 2013

Qualifications:

Exceptional interpersonal skills a must. Ability to deal effectively and courteously with participants and ability to exercise good judgment when conducting assessments and communication results. Experience working with Native students within the public schools systems and college settings. Exceptional organizational skills. Must be familiar with the Cheyenne and the Arapaho languages. Must be able to speak (100 percent fluency not required) the Cheyenne and/or the Arapaho languages. Must be familiar and willing to learn to speak the Cheyenne and the Arapaho languages. Ability to teach, learn and relay the necessary language information to workshop/seminar participants. Ability to pass OSBI background check and drug test. Ability to maintain professionalism at all times. Possess basic computer skills. Possess basic audio and video recording camera skills. Must possess a current Oklahoma state driver's license. Other Duties assigned by the director of the Language Program and the executive director of the Department of Education. Bachelor's degree in related field preferred or an equivalent combination of language experience. Experience working with native population and Cheyenne and Arapaho tribal communities. Cheyenne and Arapaho preference.

SALARY: Negotiable

Staff Accountant
2 Positions-Treasury
Closing Date: Until Filled

Qualifications:

Associate's degree in accounting or a minimum of two years experience in tribal accounting. Experience and knowledge of generally accepted accounting principles. Skill with both spreadsheet and word processing programs. Experience with fund accounting software packages, ie; MIPAble, to organize projects and analyze information in order to complete assigned projects. Communication skills both oral and written. Detail oriented with strong analytical skills.

SALARY: Negotiable

NOTICE OF CLOSING DIABETES WELLNESS

Due to all program staff attending training later this month please be advised the Fitness Center will be closed on Saturday Jan. 26 thru Thursday Jan. 31, 2013.

Regular business hours will resume on Friday Feb. 1, 2013. We apologize for any inconvenience.

Teachers-Head Start
Canton, Concho, Clinton
Closing Date:Continuous

Qualifications:

CDA, AA, BA Degree in Early Childhood education and a minimum of two years experience working in an early childhood education classroom or an equivalent combination of training and experience. Early childhood education formal training and able to receive a CDA or an AA degree within 180 days of employment. Must pass drug and alcohol test. Must complete supplemental application. Must complete OKDHS Criminal Review Application. Must pass background investigation.

SALARY: Negotiable

Teacher-Child Care
Concho Child Develop.
Closing Date: Continous

Qualifications:

Teachers hired after July 1, 1995 are required to be at least 18 years of age, have a high school diploma or G.E.D. certification or have completed the tenth grade and be in the process of obtaining a GED for a period not to exceed 12 months. Must sign employee contract stating employee will attain CDA or Mastery Certification to maintain employment. Must have a valid Oklahoma driver's license. Must pass a physical exam and be able to lift 50lbs. Must be physically fit to work daily with children. Must demonstrate basic knowledge of early childhood development. Must attend staff meetings as well as parent meetings when required. Must submit monthly reports. Must attend workshops and have adequate transportation. Must have skills to relate to the community in general. Must pass a criminal background check. Must pass mandatory drug and alcohol test. Willing to work flexible work schedule. Cheyenne and Arapaho preference.

SALARY: Negotiable

Substitute Teacher Aides-Head Start
Concho, Clinton, Canton
Closing Date:Continuous

Qualifications:

High school diploma or G.E.D. certification and minimum of one year experience working in an early childhood education classroom; or an equivalent combination of training and experience with willingness to obtain additional training and/or obtain additional training/or CDA or state certificate as requested. Ability to work effectively with low-income and special needs children. Ability to function effectively in cross-cultural situations. Ability to use positive approach in directing and redirecting child behavior, and work cooperatively as a member of a team. Current Childhood Emergency/CPA or First Aide/CPR certification or the ability to obtain one and CDL.Obtain and hold current food handler's card or the ability to obtain one. Maintain compliance with Criminal History Registry and agrees to random drug testing. Must complete supplemental application. Must complete OKDHS Criminal Review Application. Must pass background Investigation.

SALARY: Negotiable

SEARCHING FOR FAMILY MEMBERS

To all my relations my name is Desiree Cole, I am searching for my family members that are related to Fanny Burgess, my grandmother. If you are out there please call me (480) 737-3838.

Dietitian - RD/LD
Wellness Center, Concho
Closing Date: Until Filled

Qualifications:

Bachelor's degree in nutrition from an accredited institution preferred. One to two years experience in diabetes education preferred. Must possess current registration through the Commission of Dietetic Registration and current licensure through the Oklahoma State Board of Medical Licensure and Supervision. Ability to work independently and ability to be reliable. Must possess a valid Oklahoma driver's license and meet requirements for the use of a GSA vehicle. Familiar with Cheyenne and Arapaho tribal culture. Must submit writing sample if successfully selected for an interview. Cheyenne and Arapaho tribal preference. Must be able to work flexible hours including but not limited to evenings and weekends. Must pass OSBI background check.

SALARY: Negotiable

Content Producer/Writer
Videographer/Reporter
Closing Date: Until Filled

Qualifications:

High school diploma or GED certification required. Minimum three years experience writing, producing and shooting news stories.Valid Oklahoma driver's license. Willingness to travel and work nights and weekends, if necessary. A great attitude and good work ethics a must. Tribal preference.

SALARY: Negotiable

Videographer/Editor
CATV
Closing Date: Until Filled

Qualifications:

High school diploma or GED certification required. Minimum two years experience shooting and editing. Valid Oklahoma driver's license required. Willingness to travel and work nights and weekends. Tribal preference.

SALARY: Negotiable

Sheet Metal Workers' Joint Apprenticeship Committee of Western Oklahoma

The Sheet Metal Workers' Joint Apprenticeship Committee (JAC) is seeking applicants, male and female, for apprenticeship training in the sheet metal construction trade. Applicants must be at least 18 years of age, be a high school graduate or have G.E.D. certification and possess an Oklahoma driver's license. Drug testing will be required of all applicants selected for apprenticeship training. The starting wage is $17.82 per hour plus benefits.

Applicants will be selected based on the highest qualifications without regard to race, color, religion, sex, national origin or age (except with regard to the legally required minimum age). The contractor parties to the Sheet Metal Workers' JAC agreement are Equal Opportunity Employers. Applications may be completed at the following times and location: Applications are accepted the first Monday of each month from 9 a.m. – 4 p.m. at Sheet Metal Workers' Training Center, 3909 Willow Springs Avenue, Oklahoma City. For more information on the application process visit www.smw124jac.com.

Obituaries

Johnny Bearshield
Oct. 26, 1947 - Dec. 27, 2012

Funeral services for Johnny Bearshield were held Dec. 31, 2012 at the Lighthouse Church of God in Lawton, Okla.

Wake servoces were held Jan. 1, 2013 at the Clinton Community Center followed by another funeral Jan. 2, 2013 at the Clinton Community Center in Clinton, Okla.

Clara Ellen Dyer
Oct. 11, 1960 - Dec. 21, 2012

Wake services were held for Clara Ellen Dyer on Dec. 27, 2012 at the Concho Community Center.

Funeral Services were held Dec. 28, 2012 at the Concho Community Center in Concho, Okla., followed by an Interment at the Concho Cemetery.

Tyler Eric Todd
Oct. 10, 1961 - Dec. 31, 2012

An all night Wake Service was held for Tyler Eric Todd on Jan. 6, 2013 at the Watonga Baptist Church in Watonga, Okla.

Funeral Services were held Jan. 7, 2013 at the Oakerhater Episcopal Church in Waonta, Okla.

Alice Marie Seger
Nov. 13, 1962 - Dec. 20, 2012

Alice Marie Seger, of Scottsdale Arizona, passed away, Dec. 20, 2012. She was born in Phoenix, Ariz. on Nov. 13, 1962. Alice Marie Seger graduated from Riverside High School in Anadarko, Okla. She obtained her Bachelor's Degree in Education at Haskell Indian Nations University in Lawrence Kansas, a Master's Degree in Education Leadership at the University of Phoenix in Phoenix, Ariz.

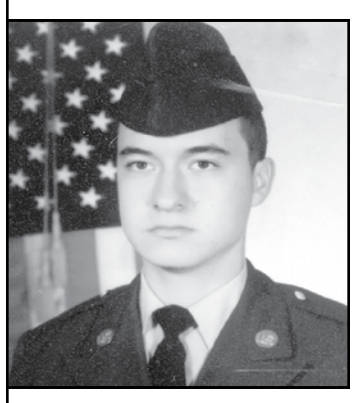
Alice held a Teacher Certification and School Principal License, was a doctoral student in Education Leadership and Management at the University of Phoenix, maintaining a 3.8 GPA.

She was an elementary school teacher for the Salt River Pima-Maricopa Indian Community from 1997 to 2004. Summer school administrator and sports coach. Alice was an Associate Judge with the Salt River Pima-Maricopa Indian Community from 2005 to 2008 presiding in criminal court cases. She was also the Chairman of the Salt River Pima-Maricopa Indian Community Gaming Regulatory Board from 2010 to 2012.

Alice is survived by sisters, Lori Seger, Victoria (Seger) Salmeron of Phoenix Ariz., brother, Danver Seger of Yakima Wash., and four nephews, four nieces, six grandnieces and three grand nephews.

Alice was preceded in death by her father, Cyrus Seger of Clinton Okla., mother, Dorrine Rhoades of Scottsdale Ariz., paternal grandparents, Art and Bessie Seger of Clinton, Okla., and maternal grandparents, Franklin Rhoades and Florence Enos of Scottsdale Ariz.

Alice Marie Seger was laid to rest at the Salt River Indian Cemetery on Dec. 28, 2012.



Charles Bruce Lacy Jr.
April 3, 1974 - Sept. 26, 2012

Sergeant First Class Charles Bruce Lacy, Jr. passed away on Sept. 26, 2012 in Colorado Springs, Colo. He was born on April 3, 1974 in Riverside, Calif. to Charles Bruce Lacy Sr., deceased and Arlene Joy Walker Lacy. He is an enrolled Cheyenne and Arapaho tribal member.

Lacy graduated from Arlington High School, in Riverside, Calif. On June 16, 1992. Charles enlisted in the U.S. Army Dec. 3, 1992 as a helicopter mechanic before joining the Special Forces unit as a linguist for Military Intelligence. He deployed to Haiti and Africa, Charles received his AA degree from Chamindde Universities May 11, 1998 in Honolulu, Hawaii. Charles has also received and AA in Foreign Language from Monterey Peninsula College and Defense Language Institute. He spoke Russian, French and Taqaloq.

Charles is survived by his mother, Arlene J. Lacy and sister, Mary Ann Lacy, both enrolled Cheyenne and Arapaho tribal members of Riverside, Calif., and fiancé Lisa R. BoBo of Sun Prairie, Wisc. aunts Shirley Mae Walker and Evelyn Martin, Brenda Lacy and Michelle Lacy Stanley and uncles Leeds R. Lacy, Jr. and Glen Lacy and many cousins, also other extended family and friends. He will be deeply missed.

Marjorie Anne Blindy
March 8, 1938 - Jan. 8, 2013

An all night Wake Service was held for Marjorie Anne Blindy on Jan. 8, 2013 in Geary, Okla. Funeral services were held Jan. 9, 2013 at the Geary Community Center in Geary, Okla.

Marjorie Anne Blindy was born on March 8, 1938 in Clinton, Okla. to Angus and Josephine (North) Blindy. She passed away on Jan. 4, 2013 in El Reno, Okla. at the age of 74.

Marjorie attended school at the Concho Boarding School and later at the Haskell Institute in Lawrence, Kansas. While Marjorie was in the relocation program, she lived in Dallas, Texas and Cleveland, Ohio working at various jobs. She liked reading, puzzles, watching sci-fi movies, going to McDonalds, Braums, Sonic, and watching television. She really liked her soaps, and liked watching the old Dark Shadows program.

Marjorie was a good person, good sister, and good mother. Marjorie was a Baptist and her belief and faith in God was strong even when she was the only one going to church.

Survivors include her son, William Tusing of the home, her sisters, Anita Campbell of Geary, Okla., Carol Blindy of Geary, Okla., Joann Soap of Stillwell, Okla., and Mary Kay Sweezy of Geary, Okla., as well as nieces, nephews, other relatives and friends.

She was preceded in death by her parents, Angus and Josephine Blindy, two sisters, Stella Charley and Marie Rouse, two brothers, James and Leroy Blindy.

Massacre descendants seek justice

continued from page 5

$800 million is gathering interest in a government account.

"If the United States pledged its sacred word on reparations, those people have every right today to reparations," Pevar said of Sand Creek. "We shouldn't look at it as some ancient document that just acquired cobwebs. It is as sacred as the U.S. Constitution."

Askman said the government likely will argue that the statute of limitations has lapsed and the government has put forth another argument, that reparations have been paid.

Askman said an Interior Department official described finding a ledger from the 1960s that purports to show payments to individuals.

Trust officials are skeptical and in any case, the matter of land promised in the treaty remains unsettled.

Askman said a claim could run into the hundreds of millions of dollars, or "much more."

If a lawsuit fails, trust lawyers say they plan to petition the Inter-American Court on Human Rights, an autonomous body charged with upholding rights and freedoms in the Americas.

Former U.S. Sen. Ben Nighthorse Campbell of Colorado knows the Sand Creek political battles well. Part Cheyenne and a massacre descendant himself, he sponsored legislation that created the Sand Creek Massacre National Historic Site, dedicated in 2007.

"There is something to be said about reparations," Nighthorse Campbell said. "It would be a lot of tough negotiations. Politically, it's simple. The country is broke. You can't squeeze blood out of a turnip."

Still another potential problem lies ahead. Some massacre descendants believe Homer Flute and his allies are frauds.

Divisions in the Sand Creek cause are nothing new. At one point in the 1960s, six groups announced plans to pursue reparations, all claiming to be the one true organization.

The trust was supposed to hold things together. But Flute and his former sponsor, Laird Cometsevah, turned against each other. The rift between trust leaders and Cheyenne traditionalists remains.

From his home in Watonga, Okla., Joe Big Medicine has focused not on reparations but on the grim task of burying the dead. Big Medicine has been using the Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act of 1990 to track down Sand Creek remains.

About nine sets, from a single scalp to a few bones and skulls, have been reclaimed from museums and private collections and buried at a cemetery near the massacre site.

Big Medicine said the dispute with Flute was over money. He said Flute wanted to register the trust as a nonprofit and pay himself and the board salaries, which tribal leaders opposed.

"It's a good claim," Big Medicine said. "It's just the wrong people doing it. They are not looking out for the people, only themselves."

There was another key divide. The Cometsevahs did not believe Arapahos were present at the massacre. The idea that Cheyennes were in a different class clashed with the trust's egalitarian goals.

Colleen Cometsevah died in 2007, and Laird died the following year. One of their daughters inherited the genealogical work the couple had hoped would be the centerpiece of their own claim.

Steve Brady of the Montana-based Northern Cheyenne Sand Creek Massacre Site Committee said he has no knowledge of the trust's latest efforts or any desire to join.

While Brady acknowledges that the treaty promises payments to descendants, not tribes, he argues that only federally recognized tribes can negotiate with the government.

"It's going to be up to the tribes, not some nonprofit organization," he said.

Flute dismisses the allegation that trust leaders sought to enrich themselves. He said officers spend their own money on everything from stamps to the annual dance.

Tax forms confirm that the trust has a pittance of a budget, it reported $1,923 in revenue in 2011, and pays no salaries.

Flute thinks the traditionalists have their own financial motivation, to keep the descendant pool as small as possible to maximize payouts. Flute said all descendants are welcome to join the trust.

Patricia Bointy, center, hugs her "adopted" granddaughter, Samantha Wells, 11, and Samantha's good friend, Ramysee Kiley Davenport, 10, right, during the 22nd annual Sand Creek Descendants Gathering in Anadarko, Okla. Nearly 100 descendants of the Sand Creek Massacre gathered at the Anadarko High School gym for traditional Gourd dancing, food and other activities and also to get updates on legal action towards the U.S. for the massacre which left over 150 Cheyenne and Arapaho tribal members dead in southeast Colorado, Nov. 29, 1864.

"If we unite, we are stronger," Flute said. "If we fight, we are doing what the government wants us to do."

Perhaps the final battle, the search for Sand Creek descendants will end. To bring any lawsuit, the trust must set a cutoff date.

Derryberry said it will fall to the federal government or courts to establish who is a rightful descendant. The trust has identified only about 15,000 of an estimated 49,000.

If the trust prevails, individual descendants will decide how to spend their windfalls.

Flute would like to establish a source of permanent revenue to support generations to come. Others mention scholarships or preserving land in their ancestors' memories.

The descendants feel they are getting closer after decades of stops and starts, of allies old and new, of divisions that won't go away.

This is perhaps the final battle over Sand Creek.

What was once called a glorious battle is now etched into history as a massacre. The site of the tragedy is memorialized by the National Park Service. Remains of victims have been returned to the land once stained with their blood.

One day soon, Robert Simpson hopes to return to the banks of the dry creekbed where cottonwood trees and prickly pear cactus grow.

The Methodist pastor wants to stand among the "witness trees," as the oldest ones are called, and talk to the dead.

"Our ancestors are still there," he said. "When you go out there, it is very moving. You can hear them. After this is all over, I want to go out there and say, `You can rest now.'"

Claims Must Be Filed By March 1, 2013
In $3.4 Billion Indian Trust Settlement

What is This About?

The *Cobell v. Salazar* Settlement is approved. The Settlement resolves a class action lawsuit that claims that the federal government violated its duties by mismanaging trust accounts and individual Indian trust lands. Payments to the Historical Accounting Class are underway. The process of considering claims for the Trust Administration Class is ongoing.

The final deadline if you need to file a claim form for the Trust Administration Class is March 1, 2013.

Am I Included?

The Trust Administration Class includes:

- Anyone alive on September 30, 2009, who:
  - Had an IIM account recorded in currently available electronic data in federal government systems anytime from approximately 1985 to September 30, 2009, or
  - Can demonstrate ownership in trust land or land in restricted status as of September 30, 2009.
- The estate (or heirs) of any deceased landowner or IIM account holder whose account was open or whose trust assets had been in probate according to the federal government's records as of September 30, 2009.

Do I Need to File a Claim Form?

You must file a claim form if you believe you are a member of the Trust Administration Class and you have not:

- Received IIM account statements at your current address anytime between January 1, 1985 and September 30, 2009 and continue to receive statements; or
- Received a payment as a member of the Historical Accounting Class. If you did, you will receive a second payment automatically as a member of the Trust Administration Class; or
- Filed a claim form already using your current address. If you have, the Claims Administrator will contact you.

You must fill out a claim form and mail it to Indian Trust Settlement, P.O. Box 9577, Dublin, OH 43017-4877, postmarked by **March 1, 2013** in order to receive a payment.

How Much Money Can I Get?

Members of the Trust Administration Class will likely receive at least $800 or more. The actual amount will depend on the number of claims and the costs of administration.

For a claim form or to update your contact information:

Call Toll-Free: 1-800-961-6109 or Visit: www.IndianTrust.com

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SPORTS SPOTLIGHT

The Keith Twins

By Rebecka Lyman

Sydney Kieth, 17, senior and athlete for Putnam City High School stands 5'8" and plays on the high schools basketball team as a point guard.

What got you started in basketball?

My dad … when I was younger he would take me to the park and we would play basketball together.

What is your biggest accomplishment?

Winning student of the year for the Oklahoma Council for Indian Education in Tulsa, my brother and I both won the awards.

What is one or two things that you do currently in your training that are keys to your success?

I play and practice at the YMCA; I work real hard on my shooting.

What is your biggest challenge and what do you do to overcome that challenge?

I am not a very fast runner on the court, I continue to work on my speed and I never let up in a game even if I know we might loose.

What are your goals and what do you do to manage them?

My daily goal is to make the best grades in school. I listen and don't talk in class that is what makes schoolwork easy, just listening.

Do you have a motto?

It is hard to beat a person who doesn't give up.

Who do you look up to?

I look up to my dad, I would consider my father successful, he is a hard worker and he has done a good job raising my brother and me. His voice is always in my head. He tells us he trusts that we will make good choices.

What is one of your most memorable moments in sports?

Our first basketball game of this season we defeated the state champions from last year, I was so happy, I even teared up a little bit.

What is the one thing someone may not know about you?

I like to draw a lot, especially fonts and letters. I draw my name a lot.

Who is your favorite athlete or team?

I like Thunder.

What are your plans for after high school?

My brother and I have been accepted to OSU, se we are going to go to college together at OSU.

Celo Keith, 17, senior, and athlete for Putnam City High School participates on the swim team and football team.

What got you started playing football and how long have you been on the swim team?

When I was in sixth grade I was bigger that what I am now, I did not want to be anymore so I asked my dad if I could play football so he put me on the school's team. I just started swimming this year for the high school, because I have a knee injury. I really like sports, so I will try anything.

What is your training schedule?

I like to run and workout, in swim I have to use different muscle groups. So I am cross training and working on different areas of my body so that I can be stronger for swim.

What would be one of your ultimate achievements?

Winning the student of the year from the Oklahoma Council for Indian education. We won out of a lot of other senior students across Oklahoma. I am very proud that my sister and I won.

Do you have a special diet?

I don't eat sugar, candy or drink pop.

What is the best advice anyone has ever given you?

My dad gives my sister and I freedom to make our choices, but he also expects the best from us. He always tells us what choices we make will affect our future, so I just want to do the right thing, because I want to go to college and be successful.

What are your plans after high school?

Well I am going to OSU with my sister and I want to be a mechanical engineer.

Where do you draw your inspiration from?

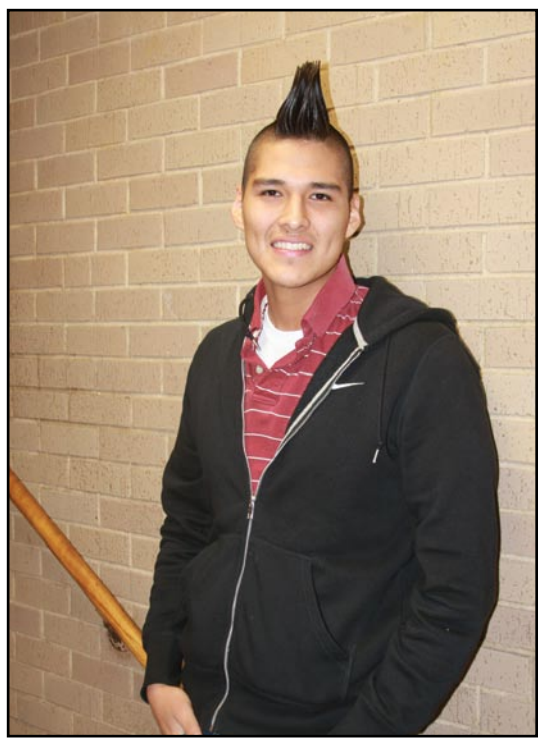
My dad, he is a strong man and always help me in anything I want to do. When I hurt my knee playing football and I wanted to still play a sport he encouraged me to do whatever I wanted.

Has your injury affected your attitude?

It has not affected my attitude, since I have had my surgery and I am able to workout, my knee is getting stronger. I will push myself to do my best at anything I do.

Do you have any rules that you live by?

Not really, I just think things through before I make decision and see how it will affect my furure.



Do you have any hobbies?

I like to read a lot.

What is one thing someone may not know about you?

A lot of my friends did not know that when I was 11, I weighed about 165 pounds.

Who is your favorite sports team?

Oklahoma City Thunder.

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